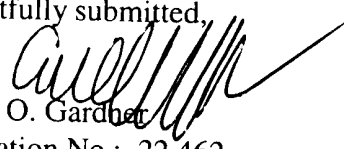


The references *Jacob* ('920), *Gut Boucher* ('286) and *Roth et al.* ('324) have been carefully studied and not found to show, teach, or suggest the specific method of local sterilization technique of parts in the manner now claimed utilizing the gas makeup.

As a consequence of the preceding, it is believed this application is now in condition for allowance, which Notice is respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, including fees for extension of time, which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this amendment without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 02-2960.

Respectfully submitted,


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